Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A ~~gene therapy~~ method of activating or enhancing a T-cell response in a patient with a tumor, comprising administering to said patient, ~~via localized delivery,~~ a pharmaceutical composition comprising: (A) an expressible nucleotide sequence for a soluble costimulatory factor in the B7 family and (B) a herpes simplex virus vector, such that (i) said factor is expressed by tumor cells or cells in the immediate area of the tumor, and (ii) said T-cell response thereby is activated or enhanced against said tumor.

2. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said herpes simplex vector comprises the expressible nucleotide sequence for a soluble costimulatory factor. ~~vector is targeted to tumor cells or cells in the immediate area of the tumor.~~

3 - 6. (Cancelled)

7. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein said administering comprises introducing said composition directly into said tumor or a local area of said tumor.

8. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1 ~~7~~, wherein said administering comprises ~~directly injecting~~ delivering said nucleotide sequence into the tumor. ~~or injecting said nucleotide sequence conjugated to a liposome carrier into the tumor~~.

9 (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said administering comprises injecting said nucleotide sequence conjugated to a liposome carrier into the tumor. ~~The method according to claim 7, wherein said vector is a viral vector.~~

10 - 11. (Cancelled)

12. (Previously amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said factor is selected from the group consisting of B7-1 and B7-2.

13. (Original) The method according to claim 12, wherein said factor comprises two extracellular domains.

14. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein said factor comprises an immunoglobulin Fc region.

15. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said factor comprises a dimer.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein the monomers of said dimer are connected by a linker.

17 - 18. (Cancelled)

19. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said tumor is selected from the group consisting of astrocytoma, oligodendroglioma, meningioma, neurofibroma, glioblastoma, ependymoma, Schwannoma, neurofibrosarcoma, medulloblastoma, germ cell tumor, chordoma, pineal tumor, choroid plexus papilloma, pituitary tumor, and vascular tumor.

20. (Previously amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said tumor cells or cells in the immediate area of the tumor are selected from the group consisting of melanoma cells, pancreatic cancer cells, prostate carcinoma cells, head and neck cancer cells, breast cancer cells, lung cancer cells, colon cancer cells, ovarian cancer cells, renal cancer cells, neuroblastomas, squamous cell carcinomas, hepatoma cells, and mesothelioma and epidermoid carcinoma cells.

21. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said administering further comprises delivering to said patient at least one expressible nucleotide sequence coding for an immune modulator.

22. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein said immune modulator is selected from the group consisting of a cytokine, a chemokine, and a membrane-bound costimulatory molecule.

23. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising (A) a ~~gene therapy~~ herpes simplex virus vector that contains a gene encoding a soluble costimulatory factor in the B7 family and (B) a pharmaceutically compatible carrier.

24. (Currently amended) A ~~gene therapy~~ method of activating or enhancing a T-cell response in a patient with a tumor, comprising administering to said patient, ~~via localized delivery,~~ a pharmaceutical composition comprising: an expressible nucleotide sequence for a soluble costimulatory factor in the B7 family, such that (i) said factor is expressed by tumor cells or cells in the immediate area of the tumor, and (ii) said T-cell response thereby is activated or enhanced against said tumor.

25. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 24, wherein said administration ~~localized delivery~~ comprises introducing said composition directly into said tumor or local area of said tumor.

26. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 24, wherein said factor is selected ~~form the B7 family~~ from the group consisting of B7-1 and B7-2.

27. (Original) The method according to claim 26, wherein said factor comprises two extracellular domains.

28. (Original) The method of claim 24, wherein said tumor is selected from the group consisting of astrocytoma, oligodendroglioma, meningioma, neurofibroma, glioblastoma, ependymoma, Schwannoma, neurofibrosarcoma, medulloblastoma, germ cell tumor, chordoma, pineal tumor, choroid plexus papilloma, pituitary tumor, and vascular tumor.

29. (Previously amended) The method of claim 24, wherein said tumor cells or cells in the immediate area of the tumor are selected from the group consisting of melanoma cells, pancreatic cancer cells, prostate carcinoma cells, head and neck cancer cells, breast cancer cells, lung cancer cells, colon cancer cells, ovarian cancer cells, renal cancer cells, neuroblastomas, squamous cell carcinomas, hepatoma cells and mesothelioma and epidermoid carcinoma cells.

30. (Original) The method of claim 24, wherein said administering comprises delivering to said patient at least one expressible nucleotide sequence coding for at least one immune modulator.

31. (Cancelled)

32. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising (A) a herpes simplex virus vector ~~gene~~ encoding a soluble costimulatory factor in the B7 family and (B) a pharmaceutically compatible carrier.

33. (Currently amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 32, wherein said ~~gene codes for a~~ soluble costimulatory factor in the B7 family ~~that~~ is able to dimerize.

34. (Cancelled)

35. (Currently amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 32 ~~34~~, wherein said costimulatory factor comprises a protein or peptide linker sequence that joins extracellular domains of said costimulatory factor.

36. (Previously added) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 35, wherein said linker sequence is comprised of an immunoglobulin Fc region.

C1 Cont

37. (Previously added) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 36, wherein said linker sequence is comprised of an IgG Fc region.

38 - 47. (Cancelled)

48. (Currently amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 32 ~~39~~, wherein said herpes virus vector is a defective herpes virus ~~HSV vector~~.

49 (Currently amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 32 ~~39~~, wherein said herpes virus vector is a recombinant herpes virus ~~HSV vector~~.

C1 Cont.

50 - 51. (Cancelled)

52. (Previously added) The method according to claim 12, wherein said factor is B7-1.

53. (Previously added) The method according to claim 26, wherein said factor is B7-1.

54. (Previously added) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 23, wherein said soluble costimulatory factor is B7-1.

55. (Previously added) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 23, wherein said soluble costimulatory factor is B7-1-Ig.

56. (Previously added) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 32, wherein said soluble costimulatory factor is B7-1-Ig.

57. (New) The method according to claim 24, wherein said herpes simplex vector comprises the expressible nucleotide sequence for a soluble costimulatory factor.